

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (currently amended) A method of establishing a communication between at least ~~two~~ a first communication unit and a second communication unit in a digital communication system, comprising:

~~transmitting audio data blocks;~~

~~wherein a first communication unit operates on a long delay link and a second communication unit operates on a short delay link; and~~

~~wherein the transmitting of audio data blocks is delayed on a site of the short delay link wherein a delay to transmission of audio data is applied to allow for delay in a channel provision; and wherein the communication is established between a first base station and a second base station which communicate via a common node operably connected to a call processing server which grants channels, such that the first base station operates on a long delay link to the common node and the second base station operates on a short delay link to the common node, and the method includes:~~

~~measuring by a network infrastructure device a propagation time between the first and second base stations and applying a delay obtained using the propagation time measurement to transmission of audio data blocks sent by the second base station on behalf of the second communication unit, the delay being sufficient that audio data is sent to the first base station when a channel grant notification from the call processing server has been received by the first base station and the first base station has joined a communication path to receive the audio data.~~

2. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1 ~~wherein the step of transmitting audio data blocks further comprises the steps:~~ further comprising the steps of:

a) ~~initiating a call set-up phase between a first Base Station (BS) and a second BS and a Call Processing Server (CPS), wherein the first BS operates on the long delay link and the second BS operates on the short delay link;~~

b) ~~sending by the CPS a Channel Grant instruction to the first BS and to the second BS;~~

c) ~~joining by the first BS and the second BS a multicast group;~~

~~—d) creating a multicast tree; and~~

~~e) transmitting the audio data blocks to the multicast tree.~~

~~a) initiating a call set-up phase between the first base station and the second base station and the call processing server;~~

~~b) sending by the call processing server) a channel grant instruction to the first base station and to the second base station;~~

~~c) joining by the first base station and the second base station a multicast group;~~

~~d) creating a multicast tree from the common node;~~

~~e) the first and second base stations joining the multicast tree; and~~

~~f) transmitting the audio data blocks to the multicast tree when joined by the first and second base stations.~~

3. (currently amended) The method according to claim 2, wherein ~~a value of the delay added on the short delay link is approximately equal to twice a difference between a value of a one-way propagation time on the long delay link and a one-way propagation time on the short delay link. the one way propagation times on the short delay link and on the long delay link are measured by the first base station and the second base station.~~

4. (currently amended) The method according to claim 3, ~~wherein the one-way propagation times on the short delay link and on the long delay link are predefined and provided by the first BS and the second BS. wherein the one way propagation times on the short delay link and on the long delay link are measured by the first base station and the second base station.~~

5. CANCEL

6. (currently amended) The method according to claim 2 ~~5~~, wherein the one-way propagation times on the short delay link and the long delay link are measured by the CPS. ~~wherein the one way propagation times on the short delay link and the long delay link are measured by a call processing server.~~

7. (currently amended) The method according to claim 2, wherein ~~said step of transmitting the audio data blocks is delayed by delaying sending the Channel Grant instruction to the second BS. a delay is made to sending of audio data by the second base station by delaying sending of a channel grant instruction to the second base station.~~

8. (currently amended) The method according to claim 2, wherein ~~said step of transmitting the audio data blocks is delayed by buffering the audio data blocks in at least one of a) the second BS, b) a Rendezvous Point (RP) router, c) the second communication unit, and d) the CPS;~~ said step of applying a delay to transmission of the audio data blocks is carried out in one of the following ways:

(i) by buffering the audio data blocks in the second base station; or

(ii) by buffering the audio data blocks in a Rendezvous Point (RP) router of the communication path; or

(iii) by buffering the audio data blocks in the call processing server.

9. (cancelled)

10. (cancelled)

11. (cancelled)

12. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1 to claim 5, wherein a ping~~ing procedure is used for the measuring, wherein the applied delay is re-measured and dynamically varied by remeasurement of the propagation times when one of the communication units switches from service by one base station to service by another base station.~~

13. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, ~~wherein the delay dynamically varies, while any one of the communication units switch to another link with a different one way propagation time, wherein the first communication unit served by the first base station and the second communication unit served by the second base station notify their users by a visual or audio signal that they are operating on a connection with a long delay.~~

14. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the first communication unit and the second communication unit notify their users that they operate on a connection with a long delay.

15. (previously presented) The method according to claim 14 wherein an audio or visual signal is used to notify.
16. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the communication between the first communication unit and the second communication unit is at least one of a simplex communication and a duplex communication.
17. (cancelled)
18. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the communication between the first communication unit and the second communication unit is secured by an end-to-end encryption.
19. (original) The method according to claim 18, wherein synchronization data blocks replace a corresponding amount of the audio data blocks at a beginning of data stream.
20. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the communication between the ~~at least two communication units~~ first communication unit and second communication unit is a call using a direct set-up method.
21. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said step of transmitting audio data blocks is delayed in a first speech item.
22. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said first communication unit and said second communication unit operate in different communication systems.
23. (cancelled)
24. (cancelled)
25. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the first communication unit is a TETRA radio or an ASTRO/APCO 25 radio or an IDEN radio, a GSM radio, a GSM-R radio or any radio in a digital radio system utilizing a low rate vocoder.